

**In The Claims:**

Kindly cancel claims 1-14 without prejudice.

Kindly add the following additional claims.

15. (New) A protective sport helmet, comprising:  
a hard shell portion for covering and providing protection to a wearer's head;  
a lining secured to an inner side of said shell portion;  
a chin strap having a first end secured to a first side of said hard shell portion and a second end secured to a second side of said hard shell portion;  
a facemask portion attached to at least one point on said hard shell portion;  
a mouthpiece connected to said facemask portion; and  
a plurality of openings formed in said facemask portion to allow air to flow therethrough for purposes of ventilation.
16. (New) The helmet of claim 15, wherein said mouthpiece is connected adjacent a bottom portion of said facemask portion.
17. (New) The helmet of claim 15, wherein each of said plurality of openings has a larger height than width.
18. (New) The helmet of claim 15, wherein said plurality of openings are oriented generally diagonally.
19. (New) A protective sport helmet, comprising:  
a shell portion;

a visor secured to said shell portion;  
a facemask in communication with said shell portion;  
a chin strap in communication with said shell portion;  
a mouthpiece secured to said facemask; and  
a plurality of vent openings formed in said mouthpiece.

20. (New) The helmet of claim 19, wherein said mouthpiece is connected to said facemask adjacent a bottom portion.

21. (New) The helmet of claim 19, wherein said chin strap has a first end engageable with a first side of said facemask and a second end engageable with a second side of said facemask.

22. (New) The helmet of claim 19, wherein said plurality of openings are oriented in a generally diagonal direction.

23. (New) A protective sports helmet, comprising:  
a hard shell portion for receiving and protecting a wearer's head;  
a lining secured to an inner side of said hard shell portion;  
a chin strap being releaseably engageable with said hard shell portion;  
a facemask portion secured and attached to said hard shell portion;  
a mouthpiece secured to said facemask; and  
at least one vent opening formed in said mouthpiece; said at least one vent opening being oriented generally diagonally.

24. (New) The helmet of claim 23, wherein said mouthpiece is formed of a hard plastic material.

25. (New) The helmet of claim 23, wherein said at least one vent opening is formed adjacent a front portion of said mouthpiece.

26. (New) A protective sports helmet, comprising:

a hard plastic shell;

a visor secured to said shell portion;

a facemask in communication with said shell portion;

a lining secured to an inner side of said hard plastic shell; and

at least three ear holes formed in at least one side of the helmet.

27. (New) The helmet of claim 26, wherein said at least three ear holes are oriented generally parallel to each other.

28. (New) The helmet of claim 26, wherein said at least three ear holes have a longer length than height.

29. (New) A protective sports helmet, comprising:

a shell portion;

a facemask secured to said shell portion;

a chin strap releaseably engageable with said shell portion;

a plurality of ear holes formed in said shell portion; and

a lining secured to an inner side of said shell portion; said lining having a first portion that is releaseably engageable with said inner side to allow a wearer to achieve a better fit.

30. (New) The helmet of claim 29, wherein said first portion of said lining generally corresponds to a crown portion of a head of said wearer.

31. (New) The helmet of claim 29, wherein said first portion of said lining is releaseably engageable with said shell portion by hook and loop attachment.

32. (New) The helmet of claim 29, wherein said lining includes a second portion that is disposed beneath said first portion; said second portion wrapping around at least a portion of a lower edge of said shell portion to provide protection to the base of a wearer's neck.